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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

AP20 Rec'd PCT PTO 16 MAY 2006

ERIK JEROEN LAHEIJ, ET AL

SERIAL NO.: ---

FILED: Herewith

DATE: MAY 16, 2006

HYDROTHERMAL PROCESS FOR  
THE PREPARATION OF  
QUASI-CRYSTALLINE BOEHMITE

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT TO BE ENTERED PRIOR TO CLAIMS FEE  
CALCULATION AND CONSIDERED PART OF ORIGINAL FILING**

Sir:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of Claims, which begin on Page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on Page 4 of this Response.

Authorization of payment of the requisite fees is attached.